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### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 13, 16, and 23 as follows.

Please cancel claim 5 as follows.

The following is a complete list of all claims in this application.

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for monitoring food, the apparatus comprising:
  - a piercing element with a temperature sensor;
  - a temperature sensor base having a transmitter and a microphone wherein the temperature sensor base is electrically coupled to the temperature sensor;
  - and
  - a monitor having a speaker and a receiver for communicating with the transmitter of the temperature sensor base,
  - wherein the transmitter of the temperature sensor base transmits a temperature sensed by the temperature sensor and an audio signal produced by the microphone.
2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising the temperature sensor base having a receiver and a speaker; and the monitor having a transmitter and a microphone wherein the transmitter of the monitor transmits an audio signal produced by the microphone of the monitor.
3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising the monitor having a display, whereby the temperature sensed by the temperature sensor is displayed by the display.
4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the display includes a doneness scale containing multiple stages of doneness.
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 3, further comprising the monitor having one or more buttons used to scroll through a set of options on the display.

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7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising the monitor having a display, whereby the temperature sensed by the temperature sensor and a target temperature are shown on the display.
8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising the monitor having control circuitry operatively associated with the monitor wherein the control circuitry is responsive to the temperature sensed by the temperature sensor and an audio signal produced by the microphone.
9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2, further comprising the temperature sensor base having control circuitry operatively associated with the temperature sensor base wherein the control circuitry is responsive to the temperature sensed by the temperature sensor and an audio signal produced by the microphone of the temperature sensor base.
10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the transmitter of the temperature sensor base transmits a temperature sensed by the temperature sensor at a first frequency range and transmits an audio signal produced by the microphone at a second frequency range.
11. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the speaker of the monitor broadcasts the temperature sensed by the temperature sensor.
12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the speaker of the monitor broadcasts a doneness scale containing multiple stages of doneness.
13. (Currently Amended) A method for monitoring food by a temperature sensor base, comprising the steps of:  
  - inserting a temperature sensor into the food;
  - sensing a temperature with [[a]] the temperature sensor electrically coupled to the temperature sensor base;
  - transmitting the temperature to a monitor with a transmitter on the temperature sensor base; and
  - transmitting a first audio signal to the monitor with the transmitter of the

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temperature sensor base.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, further comprising the steps of:  
broadcasting over a speaker of the monitor the first audio signal  
received by the monitor; and  
displaying the temperature received by the monitor.
15. (Original) The method of claim 14, further comprising the steps of:  
transmitting a second audio signal to the temperature sensor base using  
a transmitter of the monitor and  
broadcasting over a speaker of the temperature base the second audio  
signal received by the temperature sensor base.
16. (Currently Amended) A system for monitoring food by a temperature sensor  
base, comprising:  
means for sensing a temperature with a temperature sensor electrically  
coupled to the temperature sensor base;  
means for inserting the means for sensing into the food; and  
means for transmitting the temperature and a first audio signal to a  
monitor.
17. (Original) The system of claim 16, further comprising:  
means for broadcasting the first audio signal by the monitor; and  
means for displaying the temperature by the monitor.
18. (Original) The system of claim 17, further comprising:  
means for transmitting a second audio signal to the temperature sensor  
base by the monitor; and  
means for broadcasting the second audio signal by the temperature sensor  
base.
19. (Original) The system of claim 17, wherein the means for displaying includes  
a doneness scale containing multiple stages of doneness.

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20. (Original) The system of claim 17, further comprising the monitor having a means for scrolling through a set of options on the means for displaying.
21. (Original) The system of claim 17, wherein the means for transmitting the temperature and a first audio signal transmits the temperature at a first frequency range and transmits the second audio signal at a second frequency range.
22. (Original) The system of claim 17, wherein the means for broadcasting broadcasts the temperature sensed.
23. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for monitoring food, the apparatus comprising:  
    a piercing element with a temperature sensor;  
    a speaker;  
    a receiver for communicating with a transmitter of a temperature sensor base, wherein the receiver of the apparatus receives a temperature sensed by the temperature sensor base from the temperature sensor and an audio signal produced by a microphone on the temperature sensor base;  
    a transmitter; and  
    a microphone wherein the transmitter of the apparatus transmits an audio signal produced by the microphone of the apparatus.
24. (Original) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the temperature sensor base comprises:  
    a speaker;  
    a receiver for communicating with the transmitter of the apparatus, wherein the receiver of the temperature sensor base receives the audio signal produced by the microphone on the apparatus;  
    a transmitter; and  
    a microphone wherein the transmitter of the temperature sensor base transmits an audio signal produced by the microphone of the temperature sensor base.